

Youth Workforce Investment Council Agenda
CMWIB 44 Front St. Suite 300, Worcester, MA 01608
August 14, 2014

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Kristin Mayotte, Sam Martin, Ron Scott, Isidore Nosike, Janice Weekes, Robin Hooper, Jesse Edwards, Miguel Lopez, David Tirendi (proxy for Mark Riolo), Dave Wallace, Nathan Stowell (proxy for Michael Quigley), Tony Poti

Members in Process/Guests: Penny Welch, Eddie Barbosa, Carolyn Gordon, Natalia Berthet, Kelly Conlin, Jennifer Madsen, Lori Hardacker, G. Denise Taylor, Adrian Fedelli, Raquel Castro-Corrazini

Staff Present: Sean McGauley, Ed Gagne, Roy Lucas

1. **Welcome & Introductions:** R. Scott welcomed guests and asked everyone to introduce themselves.
2. **Note of Potential Conflicts of Interest & Confirmation of Quorum:** R. Scott announced that a quorum was present. There were no conflicts noted at this time.
3. **Vote:**
 - a. **Approval of Minutes of June 12, 2014:** Upon a motion by T. Poti and a second, the council unanimously voted to approve the June 12, 2014 meeting minutes.
4. **Employer Presentation: Walmart:** G. Denise Taylor presented on employment with WalMart. For more information or contact information, please see mcgauleys@worcesterma.gov.
5. **Lori Hardacker From New England Tech Careers/Life after GED or Diploma:** Lori Hardacker presented on New England Technical Institute's offerings for after a GED or Diploma. For more information or to schedule Lori to present to your group, please see mcgauleys@worcesterma.gov.
6. **Presentation: Skills and Assets assessment:** E. Gagne presented on the new Skills and Assets assessment from the Search Institute used for the federally-funded programs (please see handouts section). The online assessment takes 10 minutes to administer and assesses 40 developmental assets including both external and internal. The test cost \$2 per text. For more information, please see egagne@detma.org.
7. **WIOA Discussion Workforce Investment Act:** E. Gagne reported that the Federal act under which Youth Councils had been developed and funding for certain Career Center programs had been established has been reauthorized with changes under the new name of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). E. Gagne reviewed and highlighted some of the changes that will affect youth programming (please see handouts section). E. Gagne noted there will be a shift from funding majority of programs for in-school youth to now funding a majority of out-of-school programs. Implementation of WIOA is set to begin July 1st 2016. E. Gagne reported that some of elements of the current WIA system will be 'grandfathered' into WIOA, but it is still soon to tell which elements. More information to come.

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8. **Discussion: Professional Development Series:** S. McGauley informed the council that the youth staff team had been looking at ways to continue to engage members. One idea was to create a series of professional development trainings for youth staff. S. McGauley noted that these trainings could involve themes such as ‘how to create a budget for a grant’, ‘how to lead and facilitate a professional meeting’, ‘using ice breakers with a group’, etc. After some discussion, the council suggested scheduling a few test trainings and then evaluating if it is worth continuing.

9. **Updates:**

- a. **WIA Youth Update:** Please see WIOA discussion notes.
- b. **YouthWorks:** This summer’s YouthWorks program served 432 youth. The majority of these youth are ending their work placement August 15th with approximately 100 will be ending August 22nd. The program had been overenrolled and was operating over budget, so youth were asked if they would like voluntarily end a week early. Despite some youth ending early, the program still remained roughly \$10,000 over, but Worcester Community Action Council (WCAC) will be covering the cost through one of their other youth programs. S. McGauley thanked them for their support.
- c. **Job1 Group:** Staff are still waiting on the final regulations for the statewide readiness credential through ACT. Each region has been asked to name an ACT liaison. In Central MA, we have named Amy Mosher at Workforce Central Career Center. More information to come.
- d. **Connecting Activities:** Last year, over 800 kids took part in readiness activities in schools throughout Worcester and an additional 11 in the Blackstone Valley. This year the program has been level-funded and staff are looking to add additional schools in Southern Worcester County.
- e. **YWIC Member Program Updates:** R. Castro-Corrazini reported that the Youth Opportunities Office will be launching a Youth Commission which will be aligned with the City’s CHIP multi-year agenda.
R. Lucas announced that the partnership for the Pathways to Success between Workforce Central Career Center and Quinsigamond Community College for MCAS prep will be starting in the fall. For more information, please contact RLucas@detma.org.

10. **Announcements:** There no further announcements.

11. **Next Meeting:**

- a. **October 9th- Next partner presentation/host site? :** D. Tirendi volunteered Grafton Job Corps for the next partner presentation and host site for the October meeting.

12. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 3:58PM upon a motion by D. Wallace and a second.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Sean McGauley
CMWIB Staff*

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